



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Borman Expressway/I-65 interchange improvement on schedule

North-west ramp to be closed at night Monday or Tuesday to prepare for switching of traffic

GARY, Ind. - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) reports the Major Moves New Construction interchange improvement project at Interstate 65 and Interstate 80/94 (Borman Expressway) is successfully moving into its next phase.

Construction began in April and is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2009. This contract – the first of three – involves the construction of new ramps from northbound I-65 to westbound I-80/94 (north-west ramp) and eastbound I-80/94 to southbound I-65 (south-east ramp), as well as I-65 reconstruction and the rehabilitation of three bridges within those areas.

Work recently completed includes:

- Continued construction of retaining walls on northbound I-65 and the north-west ramp in preparation for new bridges and a new north-west ramp to be built.
- New concrete pavement on southbound I-65 between the east-south ramp and Ridge Road.
- Continued construction of the east-south ramp.
- Continued construction of the northbound I-65 bridge over railroad tracks. The deck pour is scheduled for next week.
- Construction of the foundation for the I-65 bridge over the north-west ramp. The foundation should be completed next week.

Over the next few days, work by contractor Walsh Construction includes:

- Closure of the north-west ramp from midnight to 5 a.m. Sept. 25 or 26, depending on the weather, in order to stripe the roadway so traffic will be directed to a new, temporary lane under the I-65 bridges.
- Reducing the north-west ramp speed limit from 40 mph to 30 mph.

The traffic switch on the north-west ramp is necessary in order to fully construction the I-65 bridges, as well as the new north-west ramp. Traffic is scheduled to stay in this temporary configuration until the summer of 2008. The speed limit is being reduced on the north-west ramp to prepare traffic for a sharper turn before going under I-65. There will be no shoulders on the temporary lane.

Continuing are the ramp and wide-load restrictions.

Until projected completion in November 2008, the ramp from northbound I-65 to westbound I-80/94 is restricted to one lane with an 11-foot width restriction. A posted wide load detour directs traffic on northbound I-65 wanting to travel west on I-80/94 to take I-80/94 east for approximately 2 miles to State Road 51 (S.R. 51) north to westbound I-80/94 via the clover leaf ramps.

Until projected completion in November 2007, the ramp traveling from eastbound I-80/94 to southbound I-65 will be restricted to one lane with an 11-foot width restriction. A posted wide load detour directs traffic on eastbound I-80/94 wanting to travel south on I-65 to continue east on I-80/94 for approximately 2 miles to S.R. 51 north to westbound I-80/94 to southbound I-65.

INDOT reminds drivers to use caution and keep in mind worker safety while driving through construction zones.

Major Moves fully funds a decade of critical highway projects in Indiana. When Major Moves is complete in 2015, more than 200 new construction and 200 major highway preservation projects will have been built. Major Moves capitalizes on Indiana's strategic location at the *Crossroads of America* by building a superior road infrastructure. This innovative plan will bring jobs to the Hoosier State and leave a legacy for Indiana to be a global leader in distribution and logistics.

For more information, visit the Borman Expressway Web site at <http://www.in.gov/dot/div/specialprojects/borman/index.html>.

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